

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

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December 09, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

**Dear Supervisors:** 

MUSIC CENTER PLAZA REFURBISHMENT PROJECT
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION
ESTABLISH CAPITAL PROJECT
APPROVE APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 87234
FIRST DISTRICT
(3 VOTES)

#### **SUBJECT**

The recommended actions will establish the capital project, budget, and appropriation adjustment to partially fund the various improvements at the Music Center Plaza.

## IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Find that the Music Center Plaza Refurbishment Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this Board letter and in the record of the Project.
- 2. Establish Capital Project No. 87234.
- 3. Approve the appropriation adjustment to transfer \$10,000,000 from the Project and Facilities and Development Fund to the Music Center Plaza Refurbishment Project, Capital Project No. 87234.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will find the proposed Music Center Plaza Refurbishment

The Honorable Board of Supervisors 12/9/2014 Page 2

Project (Project), Capital Project No. 87234 exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), approve the appropriation adjustment to transfer funds to the Project, and establish the Project in the Capital Projects/Refurbishments budget.

The Music Center Plaza is a major public destination and provides an outdoor venue of the performing arts. Currently, a height of 13 feet separates Grand Avenue from the Music Center Plaza, which is the Center's main public gathering area and the level from which the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Mark Taper Forum and Ahmanson Theatre are primarily accessed.

The proposed Project will strengthen the connection between the Music Center Plaza and Grand Avenue by expanding the vista of the Music Center Plaza from Grand Avenue and creating the appearance of a more gradual, less vertical rise between levels. Additionally, the Music Center Plaza will be redeveloped, reprogrammed and enhanced for both daytime and evening visitors. The design objective is to thoughtfully and sensitively respect the 1960's architecture.

The scope of the Project will:

- Widen and flatten the Grand Avenue Stairway leading to the Music Center Plaza, including a new water feature on the stairway designed to echo the existing water features on the Music Center Plaza, at the Department of Water and Power, and in Grand Park.
- Raise the sunken portion of the Music Center Plaza to align flush with the Music Center Plaza at the entrances to the Mark Taper Forum and the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion creating more usable areas for outdoor performances and festivals, improving pedestrian and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) circulation, and enabling installation of the necessary technological infrastructure under the Music Center Plaza to accommodate outdoor gatherings and performances.
- Create a lush, landscaped "balcony" with improved vistas to overlook the bustling cultural corridor, the pedestrian promenade on Grand Avenue and Grand Park. The existing plant material will be replaced with a more colorful and appropriate mix of low-scale plants and sculptural trees.
- Install "patios" along the landscaped balcony that will feature casual seating with a visual connection to the street, providing intimate spaces for small-scale performances, other gatherings, and displays of public art in the gardens.
- Reorganize the existing food, beverage, and information facilities around the Music Center Plaza by creating four new, permanent structures to provide amenities to patrons and visitors.
- Add new public restrooms to supplement the existing facilities in the Mark Taper Forum and to replace the existing restroom trailer.

Approval of the recommended actions will provide funding to perform pre-construction activities. The total estimated Project cost is \$30,000,000. The County's contribution towards the proposed Project is \$25,000,000 and the Music Center Foundation's contribution will be \$5,000,000. We plan to return to the Board to recommend the final design concept, identify additional funding, and project delivery options.

Green Building/Sustainable Design Program

The proposed Project will support the Board's Green Building/Sustainable Design Program. Additional details will be provided when design commences on the proposed Project.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors 12/9/2014 Page 3

## **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1), and Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3), by investing in public infrastructure to enhance services provided at the Music Center theatres for patrons.

### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total estimated Project cost is \$30,000,000 which is estimated to include plans and specifications, plan check, construction, change orders, consultant services, miscellaneous expenditures, Civic Art allocation, and County services. The proposed Project is partially funded with prior year net County cost.

Upon approval of the attached appropriation adjustment, \$10,000,000 will be transferred from the 2014-15 Project and Facilities Development Budget to the Music Center Plaza Refurbishment Project, Capital Project No. 87234, for a total of \$12,000,000 in available appropriation within the 2014-15 Capital Projects/Refurbishments Budget under Capital Project No. 87234. The available \$12,000,000 will be used for pre-construction activities supporting the proposed Project.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to the Board's Civic Art Policy adopted December 7, 2004, and amended on December 15, 2009, one percent of the design and construction cost of the proposed Project will be allocated to the Civic Art Special Fund.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The proposed actions are not a project pursuant to CEQA and is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project under Section 15378(b) of the State CEQA guidelines, as it involves an organizational or administrative activity of government not resulting in direct or indirect changes to the environment.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

There is no impact on current services at this time.

### CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors 12/9/2014 Page 4

Respectfully submitted,

**BRENCE CULP** 

Acting Chief Executive Officer

BC:SHK:BMB TJ:CY:rp

**Enclosures** 

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Arts Commission

#### COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT

DEPT'S. 060

DEPARTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

December 9, 2014

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR

FY 2014-15

3 - VOTES

SOURCES

**USES** 

PROJECT & FACILITY DEVELOPMENT
A01-CF-5500-10190
Other Charges \$ 10,000,000
DECREASE APPROPRIATION

VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS

Music Center Plaza Refurbishment (1)

A01-CP-6014-65099-87234

Capital Assets-Building and Improvements \$10,000,000

INCREASE APPROPRIATION

SOURCES TOTAL: \$ 10,000,000

USES TOTAL: \$ 10,000,000

## **JUSTIFICATION**

Reflects transfer of \$10M from Facility Development Budget (10190) to CP No. 87234 to fund the Music Center Plaza Refurbishment Project.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE Tracey Jue,, Manager, CEO

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REVISED)

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR	ACTION	APPROVED AS REQUESTED	
	RECOMMENDATION	APPROVED AS REVISED	.00
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER	BY Coop	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	BY 1. Richaug
B.A. NO. 058			Nov. 25, 2014